02069

1968/03/11

RECORD OF COMUSMACV FONECON

WITH: Mr. Calhoun 1800 11 March 1968

SUBJECT: Embassy Message to Wash on Force Requirements

GEN W: Make following changes in message:

Para 2, statement to effect that forces desired will "replace" troops sent north, substitute words "partially offset" for "replace."

Para 6, section on ADRF Companies, sentence that begins: "In addition, it may be desirable." Strike out this sentence and the next two sentences. Replace with: If additional men are mobilized, RF/PF units could be organized and equipped with World War II weapons available by virtue of ~~weapons of more modern weapons~~ receipt of more modern weapons by ARVN.

Same para, sentence starting with words: "assuming a formal request for ~~is approved~~ approval has been submitted through channels, it is GEN Westmoreland's opinion that more men can be recruited, trained, and equipped-----" strike next sentence, substitute: "assuming that 125,000 men are mobilized during the next six months, this will result in a net increase of approximately 60,000 men in RVNAF over current strength. in consideration of estimated losses of approximately 10,000 per month through casualties and desertions. Pick up the text with " there will be shortages of some equipment-------."

31

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